

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

Initially, Applicants wish to acknowledge the indication y the examiner that claims 1-4, 6 and 7 have been allowed.

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. By the instant amendment, claim 5 has been amended so as to depend from dependent claim 4 rather than independent claim 1. It is submitted that this amendment to claim 5 overcomes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

In addition to the foregoing, independent claim 1 has been amended so as to include the commonly accepted term "comprising" rather than the previously set forth term "composed of". In addition minor amendments have been made to lines 2 and 4 of claim 1 to ensure proper antecedent basis.

Dependent claim 3 has been amended so as to depend directly from allowed independent claim 1. In addition, lines 2 and 3 of claim 3 have been amended so as to ensure proper antecedent basis.

Finally, claim 7 has been amended so as to delete the term "in that" in favor of the more acceptable "wherein".

None of the amendments made to claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 affect the scope of the claims as originally filed and therefore the

claims are entitled to all of the equivalence of the originally filed claims.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that the instant application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it  
is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit  
Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on August 30, 2004.

  
Rachel Piscitelli